

LOCAL 1-S NEWS

for department store workers

3, NO. 2

264

SEPTEMBER 1, 1951

\$67,000 BACK PAY GOES TO MORE THAN 1400 MEMBERS

Back pay totalling more than \$67,385 will be paid out to more than 1400 men and women who are sharing in this year's \$100,000 inequity adjustment. Lump sum payments, dating back to February 1, 1951 will in some individual cases amount to more than \$250. The regular weekly increases went into the pay envelopes on August 22, just a few weeks after the completion of negotiations and the signing of the agreement.



President Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents George Gurian and Elizabeth Hammond look through a stack of letters and telegrams of congratulations that poured into the Union office following the conclusion of inequality negotiations. Praise also came from many departments that got no adjustment.

Trial Board Hears Testimony On Charges of Harm to Union

Charged by Executive Board member Jerry Harte with "acting in a way detrimental to the best interests of the Union," Jamaica Committee Chairman Vincent Moscato is now standing trial before a committee appointed by the Executive Board at its meeting on July 31st.

Basis of Charge

The Trial Committee, which consists of Robert Coleman, Chairman; Irene Barrow, Clarence Lanson, Israel Cohen and Harry Liebowitz, has already sat twice to hear arguments for and against the charges brought under Article IV, Sections G and I of the Constitution, which read:

"Any member may be penalized . . . Acting in a manner harmful to the interests and welfare of the Union and/or its members."

"Using the name of the Union or any Division for soliciting funds, advertising etc., of any kind without the consent of the Executive Board."

The charges arose from Mos-

cato's recent trip to the Soviet Union as a member of trade union delegation and the press' identification of him as a representative of Local 1-S. It was this designation that provoked a storm of protest among the Union's members and which led to the demand that he answer to the indictment.

Prior to the placing of charges against Mr. Moscato the Jamaica membership held two special Divisional meetings. The first of which was devoted to expression of opinion when newspapers broke the story that he was in Russia as a "representative of the progressive members of Local 1-S."

The second meeting was held on his return from abroad, at which time he was called upon to answer many questions which arose at the earlier gathering.

Hearings Continue

The charges were lodged against Mr. Moscato at the Executive Board meeting which followed the gatherings at the outlying stores.

The Trial Committee will re-

sume hearings early in September, at which time additional witnesses are expected to testify. At its first meeting the Committee rejected Mr. Moscato's request for the right to defense counsel. In his ruling, the Committee Chairman said, "this hearing shall be conducted in the same manner as other hearings. In any previous hearings there was never a counsel for the defense. This hearing will go along according past procedures."

Petitions submitted to the Trial Committee by Union members in Jamaica and White Plains in support of the charges were not admitted as evidence since the Committee is limited Constitutionally to the hearing of the accused, the complainant and their witnesses. When it has completed its hearings the Committee must then report its findings to the Executive Board which must vote a verdict and appropriate action. A decision may be reached by the Board at its regular meeting on the last Tuesday of September.

Payment of the retroactive sum was delayed until September 12 because of the huge amount of clerical work involved in adjusting the individual pay records. In each case it is necessary for the clerical staff to re-figure all payments for overtime work since February at the higher rate. Also re-computed are Sick Leave payments which totalled less than \$40 a week during the February to September period.

These amounts are paid over and above the straight-time inequality increase.

Union Plans School For Organizers

Local 1-S is planning an evening training school for men and women who are interested in joining the organizing staff of the United Department Store Workers, CIO, President Sam Kovenetsky announced.

The course will be conducted two evenings a week for four weeks. Each session will last an hour and a half. The first hour will be devoted to lectures and discussion, and the remaining half hour will be a social period, with sandwiches and coffee and an opportunity to informally raise any questions.

The lecture hours will be headed by recognized leaders of CIO who will be able to pass along the first-hand experiences and the techniques they developed to meet various organizing problems.

Said President Kovenetsky, who is also national Director of Organization for the Department Store Union, "While not all those who complete the course can expect to be used immediately as organizers, they will all be in line for consideration for such jobs when there are openings. I am certain that through this training program we are making it possible for many men and women to plan new careers for themselves which will be interesting and rewarding."

"There is every indication," the President continued, "that our entire campaign will be stepped up considerably and that in the near future there will be great need for large numbers of people who are well trained."

The classes will be open to all members of Local 1-S who are in good standing. Application forms may be obtained from the Union Administrator or at the Union office.

Member Say Thanks
Letters and telegrams of thanks and congratulations continued to pour into the Union office. From Third Floor departments 133, 134, Contingents, Interior Display, DA Tellers, 171 Department, from Non-Selling and other groups throughout Herald Square and the outlying stores came messages that brought cheer to the officers and members of the Negotiating Committee that had spent many weeks around the bargaining table.

Vice President George Gurian and Elizabeth Hammond, who shared the responsibility for leading the talks to their highly successful conclusion said, "Looking forward we can confidently predict that the members of Local 1-S will share in many more victories. Looking backward we cannot help but note that under their present leadership, our Union members have already won more than \$350,000 in inequality payments

(Continued from page 2)

1-S Art Winner Gains Honors

Miss Szerina Frisch, 199 Department, winner of the Local 1-S 1950 Art Show has added to her laurels by winning a Fellowship to the Edward McDowell Colony for Musicians, Writers, Painters and Sculptors at Peterboro, Vermont.

Miss Frisch, whose Best of the Show entry "Rooftops" won acclaim from the panel of prominent artists who judged the show, had the support of Mr. René d'Harnoncourt, Director of the Museum of Modern Art, in her application to the artist colony.

At the Colony Miss Frisch will be given a studio and full facilities for undisturbed work. She said, "I am very grateful to Local 1-S for the opportunity it gave me to show my work — which in turn made this wonderful opening possible."

BRANCH STORE NEWS

PARKCHESTER



Georgine Staib

At long last we have a new father-mother team. Robert McGonigal's (P12) wife has recently borne them a baby girl . . . Dorothy Brook, on leave from P10 had a boy . . . Apologies to Mae Roxby and Florence Dougherty for being so slow in reporting their illness . . . Stewards Note: Be sure to give the name of the sick in your department to Lillian Branca. The Welfare Board and your reporter both depend on your cooperation . . . Martha Taber (Housekeeping) took a three month leave of absence so that she could spend some time with her sick mother in Germany . . . At last word, Howard Ahlmeyer, formerly of P1, is in Japan . . . Vacation time is about over, and from all reports everyone seems to have had a fine time . . . The Union scored another big victory when it won the reinstatement of Camera salesman Bob Verrando. Bob was the intended victim of a Protection charge that back-fired. The Union was responsible for a thorough investigation of the facts and succeeded in proving to the company that it's system, and not Bob's integrity, was at fault. It is really a wonderful thing to know that we belong to an organization that will leave no stone un-turned in the fight to protect our rights. Bob, and all of us, owe the Union a great big vote of thanks!

WHITE PLAINS



Jack Kenny

Recently the men up here won a victory a few of us have been fighting for quite a while. In spite of the fact that our store is air conditioned, we are now allowed, on very hot days, to take off our coats. Management had long insisted that it never gets that hot in the store, but the fact remains that it does and we won our argument . . . A group of new employees was seen taking a tour of the store recently — about a dozen in all, and they were really a welcome sight. We have been understaffed for too long already and the reinforcements should help take some of the burden off us . . . Congratulations are in order for Santina Bartotti and Fred Ernst who were married recently. They both have worked in the store for close to two years and are the fourth couple amongst us to wed since the store opened . . . "Annual Executive Clearance" really produced some startling changes. It seems that everybody has a new boss, including the bosses — and confusion is wholesale! . . . At this writing Mr. Moscato's hearing before the Trial Committee is going ahead . . . There is no way of knowing what the outcome will be, but there is one reassuring certainty. We can be sure that our Executive Board will listen carefully, think wisely and act intelligently.

JAMAICA



Vincent Moscato

well fast! . . . It was nice of Neonilia Yaroff (Women's Tailor) to drop in to see us. Doctor's orders are to stay out a little longer . . . Let's hope that Eleanor Clade (J7) is feeling better — everyone else looks good after a little vacation . . . Jamaica Stove Co. was again administered a sound shellacking by our Jamaica softball team. The score was 22 to 5, with yours truly doing the pitching — and this with no nights off, what with the "Big Trial" going on . . . From many reports it seems the service managers are still having a field day. Let's get the stewards back in form again. Let's write up those grievances! It's still one of the best ways of making sure we know what's going on . . . After this unpleasant business, I will be back snooping for more news!

FLATBUSH



Dave Markowitz

Jack Doyle (S.O. Men's Store) now in the Air Force at Sampson. His mother works in the Cosmetics Department . . . Lil DiCanio (China) is back with us after a long illness . . . Some new promotions — Ruth Vickers Frances Hilton (P.T. Shoes) have both resigned . . . Some new promotions — Rueh Vickers (Cashier) now selling in the Domestic Department, Marion Herman now at the Service Desk, Mary Freedman (Stock) now selling Women's Sportswear . . . My thanks to Kitty Madden for her help with the Credit Union while I was on vacation. If you want a real "George" vacation, here's the place — the Roaring Brook Dude Ranch, Lake George. This place is grand and it really "roars" — just mention my name! . . . The Women's Hobby Club gave \$25 to PAL . . . Pauline Leslie (Jewelry) is on tour as the leading lady singer in a road company . . . Our sympathy to Marion Vacaro (Art and Needlework) on the loss of her Grandmother. May your marriage to Ray Malpero be one that will help you forget all the bad things of life . . . Abby Lebrich (Millinery) resigned and moved to Florida . . . Dora Rosenberg on vacation. What will happen to the CT office now? . . . Mrs. McGinnis (Housewares) daughter was operated on recently. Hope she has a speedy and complete recovery.



Jubilant members of 73, 162 and 171 departments on the Fourth Floor wave their fuller pay envelopes as the I-S NEWS cameramen records the happy occasion. From Left to Right are: Cri Diamantis, Mary Miller, Paulette Boyd, Julia Heller, Paula De Lomma, Terrance Lifland (Shop Steward until his recent induction), Rita Emanuel, Alice Willibrand, Mildred Adamo, B. Schneiderman, Florence Reich and Betty Chupko. In addition to their inequality raise, their back pay is due soon.

\$67,000 Retroactive Pay...

(Continued from page 1)
alone. None of us can think of resting on our laurels until the Union aim of "equal pay for equal work" is a reality throughout the store. We are now a step nearer our desired end."

Praise For Negotiators

President Sam Kovenetsky was high in his praise of his fellow officers and the other negotiators. He said, "the bargaining team that accounted for this victory is a credit to the entire Union and has set still higher the mark for which the unorganized department store workers must shoot. Each victory brings home to those work-

ers who do not enjoy the benefits of a Union and a contract the need for haste in organizing. Our own progress is the best spur to those who are only just beginning.

"While we have every reason to be jubilant," President Kovenetsky concluded, "we must not forget that our contract provides for a re-opening in February of 1952. At that time we will again be free to negotiate for a general wage increase, for shorter hours and the further adjustment of remaining inequalities.

"This means that all our Union meetings and activities must

clearly reflect the unity of our 8300 members and their determination to see that our future gains meet our present needs."

Macy Muddle Hurts Workers

In one of the most fantastic muddles Macy policy makers could concoct, the worker is, as usual, the victim and the goat.

Prior to late 1950, employees received a 20% discount on all their clothing purchases. After that, management's efficiency team got on the job and worked out a formula that today spells confusion and discrimination. By their current yardstick the 20% discount is applicable only to items of clothing that may be worn to work or on the job.

The men found that only a 10% allowance was to be granted on such items as slacks, sports jackets, sweaters, and wool shirts. All of which can be "worn to work and on the job" by thousands in non-selling positions.

Women found print dresses, much summer apparel and play shoes on the proscribed list. Women continue to get a 20% markdown on handbags, while men get only 10% on wallets. Women receive the 20% reduction on sweaters, while men get 10%.

Everybody is limited to the lower figure for such essentials as prescriptions, eyeglasses and food from the Grocery Department.

Under the whiplash of steadily rising prices and higher taxes resistance against the company's indifference is growing rapidly.

The demand for an across-the-board 20% off on all purchases is becoming more insistent. Every worker-consumer agrees that "It's smart to be thrifty," but they want to know "will Macy's be smart and help us in our fight for survival?" They await the company's answer.

HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local 1-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office within 30 days from the end of the month in which you leave the store. Protect yourself — protect your family — protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time!

**FREE
LEGAL AID CLINIC
Local 1-S Attorney
Robert Silagi
at the Union Office
Every Wednesday
5 to 7 PM**

Members of Local 1-S and their family receive special consideration for at-home, in-office or in-hospital medical or surgical care when they are treated by a panel member.

LOCAL 1-S NEWS

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LOCAL 1-S, UNITED DEPARTMENT STORE WORKERS OF AMERICA, C.I.O.
125 West 33rd Street New York 1, N.Y.

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1st Vice Pres.: George Guran — 2nd Vice Pres.: Elizabeth Hammond

Editorial Board

Violet McMonagle

Editor: Dick Pastor

Jerome Harte

David Krakauer

LETTERS to the EDITOR

To the Editor:

It is with the greatest of pleasure and gratitude that I wish to express my thanks to Miss Hammond and the Union staff for your alertness. I have been temporarily assigned to a much better job in the Camera Department as a result of that alertness. It is that sort of conscientious effort that can go by unnoticed and unknown to our fellow members, but which they must know about because it gives living meaning to what could be mere words in a contract.

The present agreement with Macy's on procedure for putting through staff promotions has given new life to the rights of seniority. If we could only give wider and larger publicity to all the so-called "little gains" that are made every day by our Administrators, the contract and the Union organization would have more meaningful significance to the membership.

Thank you again and more power to your efforts.

Sincerely,
Felice De Felice—96 Dept.

To the Editor:

I should like to take this opportunity of trying in this small way to thank everyone who was in any way responsible for the wonderful assistance extended to me since my son was hospitalized on July 3rd.

We never would have been able to afford the care he is getting without your help.

"Thank you" are such small words, but I hope in them you will find how deeply grateful the family of Paul Daly, Jr. is to all of you.

Respectfully,
Catherine Daly, F15-56

To the Editor:

The card and gift sent by the Welfare Board cheered a very sick and sad human. It is a very kind and gracious gesture to remember the sick and it is most appreciated when a person feels very ill and no longer a participant in our busy laboring world.

It is also very comforting to know that one has a good Union like Local 1-S to offer medical care when a Union member is ill, and job security when that member is able to return to work.

Permit me to take this opportunity to thank my many friends in Local 1-S for their numerous cards and gifts. It was most kind and thoughtful of them.

Sincerely,
Estelle Sage—919 Dept.

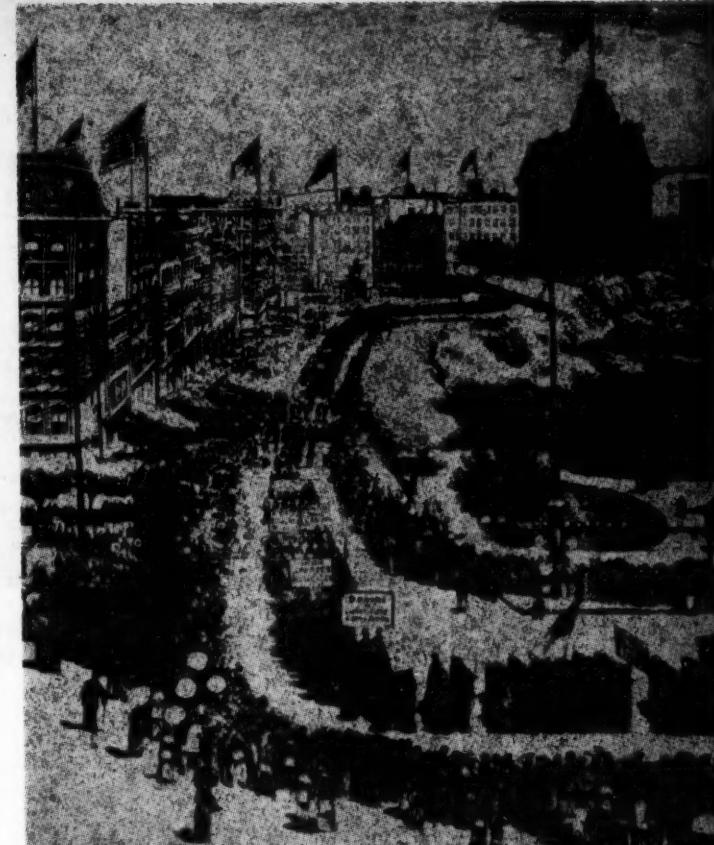
To the Editor:

Several weeks ago I realized that I needed to see a really good dentist. Our Welfare Committee suggested Dr. Wasserman. After a few weeks of treatment I am very pleased with the results. Dr. Wasserman certainly knows his business. So quietly efficient and gentle that I experienced no discomfort whatever.

Like most of us, I don't have too much money left for medical and dental care. Again, Dr. Wasserman is the answer. His fees are very moderate and he offers you the easiest sort of plan to pay whatever your bill may amount to.

Members, if you are looking for a dentist then Dr. Wasserman is your man. The Welfare Board is to be commended for securing his services.

Sincerely,
Betty Nusio—Packing



Under such militant slogans as "Eight Hours Constitute a Day's Work," "Labor Creates All Wealth," "All Men Are Born Equal" and "Abolish Convict Labor," New York trade unionists marched in the city's first Labor Day parade on September 5, 1882.

To the Editor:

This is to express my heartfelt appreciation and thanks to the Welfare Board for the lovely Get Well card and gift of perfume sent me during my illness.

It is a Godsend to know you can depend on our Union for financial aid through the wonderful Health Plan in times of illness.

Thank you for your kindness.

Sincerely,
Pauline Menninger—P5

To the Editor:

I have now received a check covering benefits for my recent illness under the Health Plan. I appreciate the promptness and courtesy with which the matter was handled.

I particularly appreciate, however, the kindness of Miss Hammond and other officials of the Union during my stay in the hospital. Your cards and your thoughtful gifts of a book and perfume were very nice indeed. The speed with which you supplied blood from the Union Blood Bank was an important item in my recovery and saved me a considerable amount of money.

I thank you very much.
Yours sincerely,
J. Jones—MTE 3102

To the Editor:

This is to thank the Union and the Health Plan for all your help in my recent confinement. I believe I am the first one to use the Plan twice for maternity benefits — the first time I had the heartbreaking experience of losing my baby. This time, with the very able assistance of your wonderful Dr. Nathan Mintz I have now a beautiful new daughter. I think if more of our Union members knew about the service of the Doctors on the panel they could save themselves a great deal of worry and money. I know I did and I'm very grateful.

Thank you again for all your help. I remain,

Sincerely yours,
Dorothy Daunbauer—92 Dept.

To the Editor:

I would like to let you know about the wonderful care I received from Dr. Samuels, who was recommended to me through our Union.

I was very sick when I went to his office and now I am getting well through the very good care he has taken of me.

He also recommended Dr. Esseson, who operated on me and did a wonderful job. I feel sure that if our Brothers and Sisters in our Union knew how wonderful these doctors are it would save them many hours of suffering. I had been doctoring for over two years with different doctors and none ever seemed to help me.

I want to thank our union and all those who made it possible for us members to be able to see such capable doctors at a reasonable fee.

Many thanks again.
Margaret Moran, FSM351

To the Editor:

This is to express my thanks to the Local 1-S Health Plan for the check which I received. Hope to be able to resume work soon.

Yours truly,
Marie Rannbreuf—J19

To the Editor:

I just thought that our readers might like to hear about the wonderful and priceless Health Plan of Local 1-S. I have recently recovered from an operation which incapacitated me for six weeks. Upon learning that I required an operation I contacted Dr. Esseson, of the Physician's Group, and advised him of same. After a short while I was admitted to Mt. Sinai Hospital and operated on by Dr. Esseson, whose efforts and care in my behalf for the past six weeks deserve praise and admiration. And may I mention that I received all of this wonderful treatment without any cost to me!

To Local 1-S, to our Health Plan Consultant and to everyone connected with the Health Plan, I wish to express my sincerest thanks and appreciation.

M. M. Satow—J6

To the Editor:

I want to thank the Union for the check I received for my recent operation. This was the third check I received and was very much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Mildred Skerie—CPC

It Adds Up

LABOR DAY IS A GOOD time to stop for a few moments and add up our assets and liabilities and see if we can determine what the future holds for us. We know, for example, that our assets include wage increases and greater security written into the contract. These gains, achieved since last Labor Day, simply extend the pattern of better pay and working conditions that has marked the entire history of our Local 1-S.

WE MUST FACE THE FACT that on the other hand company profits and the cost of living have climbed to new highs. We cannot hide from the fact that while we are making more money than ever before, it is buying us less of the necessities of life. This problem is not peculiar to us alone, but plagues workers everywhere.

IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY that we all be fully aware of the fact that while our power has increased in our direct dealings with management, we have lost ground on the political front — the front that determines whether the laws of the land will serve the interests of the few or of the many.

OUR UNION'S LEADERS ARE well aware of the many sides to the problem of winning and maintaining a decent living standard. Out of their understanding and experience have come the plans for a full mobilization of the membership behind negotiations and political action. The members themselves can best demonstrate their understanding by responding readily to the Union's calls for action.

IT WOULD BE WELL ON this worker's holiday to look back over the twelve years that Local 1-S has been our "collective bargaining representative". Let us not forget that it was only our united strength that won for us the highest wages in the department store field. Let us not forget, either, that we are indebted to our strength for automatic wage increases, for job security, for a health plan and for a contract that protects our rights in hundreds of different ways.

AS WE HAVE MOVED FORWARD, so too has most of organized labor. We have come a long way since Peter McGuire urged, in 1882, that labor set aside this day "for a parade through the streets of New York". Labor's economic gains clearly reflect its greater strength. Yet we must never take for granted our power. We must constantly work to remain strong. We must spare no effort to keep building our Union, because only our Union is our strength.

Back to Work

THE BEGINNING OF THE FALL season means that we are again about to start the round of Divisional, General and Steward meetings. It means that with vacations behind us we are again prepared to face the tasks at hand and deal with them in the appropriate manner.

FOR NEW MEMBERS AND OLD the coming weeks will provide an opportunity to get re-acquainted and to contribute to the strengthening of our entire Union structure. While there are some who are inclined to regard the Union as an instrument to serve them, most members realize that they are the Union and that without them the Union could not function.

THE EXPERIENCES AND SUGGESTIONS, the praise and criticism of each individual member, contributes to the total strength and vitality of Local 1-S. Such sharing in the life of the Union is a responsibility to be borne by all. Let no one forget that while the Constitution (written and ratified by the membership) provides penalties for unexcused absences, the Union leadership wants and works for participation — not penalties.

WE ARE CERTAIN THAT WHEN the Chairman or Chairlady bangs his or her gavel and says, "In the name of Local 1-S I hereby call this meeting to order" the people will respond with a full sense of the importance of their deliberations and decisions. For on their actions will depend much of the success from which each of us will benefit in the days to come.

LET THE GAVER DO ITS work and let the discussion range free, for when it's done we know that our powerful teams will be working together to chalk up new victories that will stand to the credit and benefit of all.



A day of classroom work was followed by picnic supper on the shores of Lake Cayuga. From left to right around the table: Deborah Valencia, Dorothy Gilmore, Florence Coyle, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Yagoda, Frances Chase, Miss Effie Riley, Anthony Burns, William Koppers, Robert Coleman, Clara Drazen, Louise Agnelli and Florence Bruno.

Cornell Group Lauds Union Study Program

By The Local 1-S Cornell Student Group

On Friday, July 20, eleven members of Local 1-S, left New York City to find out what Cornell University, New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations had to offer them in understanding their obligations and responsibilities as Shop Stewards and members of the Executive Board.

Dick Pastor, Education Director of the Union, arranged the details of the trip and waved a hearty farewell to those taking the Greyhound bus from its terminal on 34th Street. Those going to school were: Florence Bruno (86), Dorothy Gilmore (13), Louise Agnelli (BofS), Clara Drazen (158), Robert Coleman (160), William Koppers (28), Anthony Burns (33), Florence Coyle (69), Frances Chase (41), Deborah Valencia and Dorothy Pandolfini of the Union staff.

After a trip through three states, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York the delegation arrived in Ithica. Standing on the bus station platform was a merry, gray haired lady with a placard reading "Macy's, Local 1-S." Our group gathered around the rallying point of 1-S and found the proud standard bearer to be Miss Effie Riley, of the New York State School. Miss Riley proved to be our genial hostess and mentor for the weekend along with Miss Eleanor Emerson.

The group was furnished transportation by private car from the bus station in the city up the famous hill to the University. Here at Willard Straight Hall we registered and the late-comers who chose to drive by car caught up with the group. As the time was now 11 pm Miss Riley suggested that a bite to eat might be in order and escorted the group to the snack shop which was our first initiation to the inexpensive and exceptionally good food we enjoyed in the cafeterias during the weekend.

The group settled down very comfortably two to a room in the spacious living quarters of Willard Straight Hall. Saturday morning, after a hearty breakfast (cost, 59 cents) the group met Miss Riley and went up the hill to the building in which the classes were to be held.

Some of the group had overslept and were a few minutes late,

so that our first session on the History of the Labor Movement, led by Professor Maurice Newfeld, began over coffee in the Coffee Shop in the Statler Inn. This informality set the tone for the remainder of the session which included classes in the Economic Basis of Trade Unionism led by Associate Professor Robert Ferguson, the Role of the Shop Steward and Executive Board Member and The Community Relations of a Union, both headed by Louis Yagoda, member of the School faculty and New York State Mediation Board. He is well known to Local 1-S members in White Plains since he taught two Shop steward classes there last year.

Following the last of the afternoon's sessions Miss Riley led our motorcade of three cars down the hill, through Ithica to one of the New York State parks on the shores of the famous Lake Cayuga. Here we picniced on box lunches prepared at the School.

Following the single Sunday morning class, Miss Riley led a closing panel discussion participated in by all the instructors and our entire group. In this session we were able to more fully discuss trends in the labor movement, its significant developments and outstanding educational problems for groups such as ours.

Among the many highlights of the classes were such pointed statements as that made by Professor Newfeld that, "the unionization of white collar workers, which includes department store workers presents the greatest challenge to all of us, because it represents the greatest potential number of workers who have been continually exploited by big business."

On their return to the City many members of the group spoke hopefully about returning to the Cornell campus for further study, while all spoke earnestly of the desirability of every Shop Steward and Executive Board member taking advantage of such outstanding educational opportunities.

The Union is now discussing with University authorities the possibility of another week-end study group sometime in October. The class will be limited to a maximum of twenty members.



In the classroom easy informality and full discussion marked their study of trade unionism on the job and in the community.



On the Cornell University campus the Local 1-S group found that the full facilities of the school had been made available to them.

PERSONALS

FOR RENT—Furnished or unfurnished room, Washington Heights. Three minute walk to station. \$12 weekly including kitchen privileges. Gentleman preferred. Phone LO-9-2826 after 6 p.m.

WANTED—Macy couple desires 3 room apartment anywhere in metropolitan New York, to \$55. Phone Miss Matano, Ext. 839.

Correction

The last issue of the Local 1-S NEWS erroneously reported that back pay, under the terms of the recently concluded inequality agreement, would be retroactive to February 1, 1950. The correct date is February 1, 1951.

Grievance Roundup: Recent Wins Score Heavy Gains

Some Shop Stewards jokingly suggested recently that they should belong to a miner's union, because of the considerable amount of digging they have to do to unearth grievances of long standing.

Take the case of Steward Kate Jacobson and Hilda Covington, CMC 423. Miss Covington was moved into a higher rated job, but was kept at her old salary for more than sixteen months. Even then, it was the company that decided to pay her at the higher rate that was guaranteed by the contract.

Steward Jacobson got wind of all these doings and dug up the fact that there was a big pile of money still coming to Hilda. She wrote a grievance, but found that after the lapse of so much time

she could not get to first base on the first step.

At that point the Floor Committee, consisting of Mary Merkowitz, Joe Petro and David Kukauer took the complaint to a second step. They demanded that Hilda receive her raise for the entire retroactive period that she was on the job.

Management had no choice, under the pressure of the strong liaison committee, under the terms of the contract and in face of the facts but to dig down and pay Hilda a total of \$486.79. "And," murmured one Floor Committee member, "maybe they ought to pay her interest, too!"

* * *

Margaret See, who works in Silverware at White Plains, must be a firm believer in the "better late than never" theory. One day she amazed Administrator Tony Pisa by telling him that she had gotten her raise to the 18 month rate more than a year after it had been due her. She said that because of many transfers and much flexing her records must have been mixed up, and what could the Union do about it?

When Tony put the problem in front of management they did not take an oath on the fact that Margaret had gotten every penny that was due her. Tony insisted, however, that the company make a careful check of its records despite their certainty. Only then did the real facts come to light.

Because she had been first hired in New York and then transferred to the outlying store, Margaret's original hiring date had gotten lost in the shuffle. Not only was she losing money, but a year of seniority as well, according to Macy records.

When the Union finished with the problem the company paid Margaret \$105 due her in back pay, gave her a weekly raise of \$2 and restored her to her full seniority status.

* * *

As we go to press Union officials are awaiting the arbitrator's interpretation of the "normal late opening clause" in the contract. The case was submitted to him at the end of July after the Union and the company failed to agree on its intent and meaning. The Union is demanding overtime pay for Flatbush workers and approximately forty sponsors who have earned the extra money under the Local's understanding of the contract.

MEDICAL PLAN — for the name and address of the doctor nearest you CALL the Union Office — LA 4-9714 or Associated Physicians Medical Group — BU 8-4296 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK — If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL Elizabeth Hammond at the Union Office — LA 4-9714.

Sec. 34.66 P.L.R.
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